

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY S/S-O: MORAN

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

### 1. PORTUGAL: OPORTO REMAINS FOCAL POINT OF DEMONSTRATIONS

BY THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 8, RADICAL SOLDIERS ORGANIZATION (SUV) DEMONSTRATORS REMAINED IN CONTROL OF AN ARTILLERY REGIMENT NEAR OPORTO AND CLAIMED THE SUPPORT OF OVER A DOZEN NORTHERN UNITS. THE SOLDIERS WERE JOINED BY VICTORIOUS REMNANTS OF THE OPORTO METALWORKERS DEMONSTRATION, WHO, ON OCTOBER 7, SUCCEEDED IN PRESSURING SECRETARY OF STATE FOR LABOR CURTO INTO CONCEDED A WAGE INCREASE PREVIOUSLY GRANTED BY THE FIFTH GOVERNMENT. THE THREE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES BLAMED EACH OTHER FOR THE CHAOTIC SITUATION.

### EMBASSY OBSERVATIONS:

--THE SUV OCCUPATION IS THE MOST SERIOUS CHALLENGE NORTHERN REGION COMMANDER VELOSO HAS FACED. IF HE RESORTS

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TO FORCE TO END THE OCCUPATION, IT COULD FOR THE FIRST

TIME LEAD TO A DIRECT PHYSICAL CONFRONTATION BETWEEN  
MILITARY UNITS.

--THE OPORTO METALWORKERS DEMONSTRATION PROBABLY EN-  
HANCED THE CHANCES OF THE INCUMBENT PRO-COMMUNIST SLATE  
IN THE FEDERATION ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 11 AND

" - - " - - - -  
IS INDICATIVE OF THE MORE MILITANT ANTI-GOVERNMENT POL-  
ICIES CURRENTLY BEING PUSHED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

--EVENTS IN MADEIRA INDICATE THAT THE LEFT, ESPECIALLY  
THE EXTREME LEFT, IS WELL ESTABLISHED IN KEY AREAS AND  
HAS BEEN ABLE, DESPITE ITS SMALL NUMBERS, TO EXERT CON-  
SIDERABLE INFLUENCE ON THE COURSE OF LOCAL POLITICAL  
DEVELOPMENTS. (CONFIDENTIAL) LISBON 5959; 5957, 10/8.)

## 2. LEBANON: VIEWS ON DEMARCHES BY THIRD PARTIES

IN RESPONSE TO US EFFORTS TO INVOLVE OTHER NATIONS IN EXERT-  
;NG PRESSURE ON THE COMBATANTS IN LEBANON, EMBASSY BEIRUT  
OBSERVES THAT:

--WHILE A FRENCH DEMARCHE TO THE PHALANGE WOULD BE MOST  
EFFECTIVE, IT IS THE US WHICH STILL HAS THE GREATEST  
INFLUENCE, PARTICULARLY IN PHALANGE QUARTERS.

--A WELL-RESPECTED COUNSELOR TO JUMBLATT STRONGLY  
RECOMMENDED THE US TAKE A POSITION AGAINST THE PHALANGE  
AND ENCOURAGED OUR APPROACHING SAUDIA ARABIA AND EGYPT  
TO DO THE SAME.

EMBASSY PARIS, FOR ITS PART, REPORTS THAT THE FRENCH INTEND  
TO COUNSEL THE MARONITE PATRIARCH ON MODERATION AND FLEXI-  
BILITY WHEN HE VISITS PARIS LATER THIS MONTH. QUAI POLITI-  
CAL DIRECTOR LABOULAYE ALSO INDICATED THE GOF WILL URGE  
SYRIA, IRAQ AND THE PALESTINIANS TO ENCOURAGE THEIR FRIENDS  
IN LEBANON TO MODERATION. (SECRET) BEIRUT 12545 (EXDIS) AND  
(SECRET) PARIS 26148 (EXDIS), 10/8.)

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## 3. VIETNAM REFUGEES: DRV REPRESENTATIVE REJECTS UNILATERAL USG ACTION

THE CHIEF OF THE DRV OBSERVER MISSION TO THE UNHCR EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE MEETING IN GENEVA TOLD THE COMMITTEE OCTOBER 7  
THAT THE USG COULD NOT SETTLE THE MATTER OF THE VIETNAMESE  
REPATRIATES UNILATERALLY AND WOULD HAVE TO ASSUME RESPONSI-  
BILITY FOR ALL CONSEQUENCES. HE STATED FURTHER THAT:

--THE PRG HAD MANY MAJOR PROBLEMS TO SETTLE IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE WAR BEFORE IT COULD CONCENTRATE ON REPATRIATION.

--THE SOLUTION WILL BE WORKED OUT ON A PROGRESSIVE BASIS AND THE PRG WILL REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR REPATRIATION IN ITS OWN GOOD TIME. (CONFIDENTIAL) US MISSION GENEVA 7683, 10/8.)

#### 4. ETHIOPIANS CRACKING DOWN ON DISSIDENTS

IN THE WAKE OF THE BOMBING OF THE ADDIS ABABA TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUILDING, THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT HAS LAUNCHED A WAVE OF ARRESTS OF DISSIDENTS OF ALL POLITICAL STRIPES, FROM ERI-TREANS TO AMHARANS, AND REPORTEDLY INCLUDING THREE MEMBERS OF THE DIRG.

--THE DIRG IS ALSO CLAMPING DOWN ON WORKERS INVOLVED IN A RECENT SPATE OF WORK STOPPAGES.

--THERE HAVE BEEN SCATTERED REPORTS OF RESISTANCE TO THE ARRESTS; MILITARY AND POLICE ARE "JITTERY" AND TRIGGER HAPPY, ADDING TO THE TENSION. (CONFIDENTIAL) ADDIS ABABA 11986, 10/8.)

#### 5. KUWAIT SHOPPING FOR US TANKS?

EMBASSY KUWAIT REPORTS THAT UK-KUWAITI NEGOTIATIONS ON THE PURCHASE OF THE CHIEFTAIN TANK HAVE COLLAPSED, AND THE KUWAITIS MAY NOW TURN TO THE US. MEANWHILE, THE KUWAITI PRESS IS REPORTING THAT A SOVIET ARMS TEAM WILL VISIT THE COUNTRY LATER THIS MONTH. (CONFIDENTIAL) KUWAIT 4074, 10/8.)

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#### 6. MEXICO'S ECHEVERRIA BLOWS HIS CHANCES FOR UNSYG

USUN REPORTS THAT THE REACTION AMONG THE LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATIONS TO MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S ATTEMPT TO HAVE THE SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDER SPANISH EXECUTIONS IS THAT HE HAS DONE GRAVE HARM TO HIS DESIGNS AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE SECRETARY GENERALSHIP. SOME COMMENTED THAT THE ACTION WAS A "DIGNIFIED WAY OF COMMITTING HARI-KARI," WHILE OTHERS REFERRED TO ECHEVERRIA AS THE "EX-CANDIDATE." SPECULATION CONTINUES ABOUT WHAT MOTIVATED ECHEVERRIA TO TAKE THE ILL-CONCEIVED MOVE. (CONFIDENTIAL) USUN 4844, 10/8.) KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SUMMARY, MORNING SUMMARY  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE240698  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O: MORAN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750350-1124  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751069/aaaacjuz.tel  
**Line Count:** 167  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SSO  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, PINS, SREF, PO, LE, VS, MX, ET  
**To:** JCS MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006